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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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ad@starofmysore.com

MYSURU Tuesday 25th January 2022
City Offices: K.R. Circle Ph: 2431774
Devaraja Urs Road Ph: 2428695
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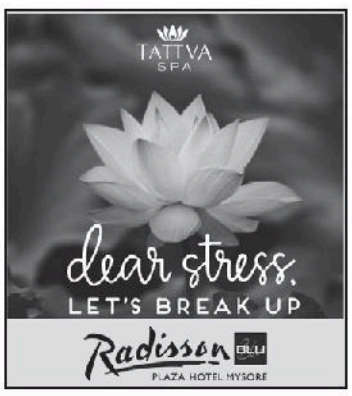


COVID War Room operations re-start

Helpline 0821-2424111 with 10 lines open for pandemic-related queries

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Mysuru, Jan. 25- With cases of COVID-19 surging at a rapid pace with more than 4,000 positives being reported every day, the District Administration has re-started the COVID War Room operations at the new District Office Complex in Siddartha Layout on Bannur Road.

Officials have already gathered details of hospital beds, including beds available in Government and Private Hospitals with real-time details of those occupied and vacant. The entire system and network which were in place during the second wave have been re-started.

District AYUSH Officer Dr. B.S. Seethalakshmi and MUDA Special Land Acquisition Officer Harshavardhan have been appointed as the Nodal Officers for the War Room. Over 62 Health Department staff, teachers and volunteers are attached to the War Room and they are working round-the-clock in shifts.

In the second wave, 60 staff worked in the War Room and in the present third wave, more staff and volunteers will be appointed to ease the pressure as the number of cases is rising every day. Yesterday, Mysuru district reported a total of 4,105 positive cases of COVID-19.

(See COVID WAR ROOM on page 7)

Holiday

*Our offices will remain closed tomorrow on account of **Republic Day.** Hence, there will be no issue of **Star of Mysore** dated **Jan. 26, 2022.***

— Management

Not many takers for Ambaari city trips

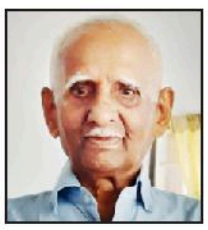
Only 10 tourists every day; poor response during weekends too

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (RK&KS)- The wheels of the Ambaari double-decker hop-on and hop-off city tourist buses aren't going round and round very much these days. And despite relaxation in weekend curfew, there are not many takers for this service.

Demand for bus travel has fallen during the COVID pandemic as people are avoiding travel in public service wherever possible. The same trend is being witnessed when it comes to Ambaari service launched by the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) to boost Mysuru city's tourism through the year.

(See AMBAARI on page 7)

Allaranda M. Kuttappa dies at 103



A.M. Kuttappa

Mysuru, Jan. 25- **Allaranda M. Kuttappa** (103), a resident of #95, 3rd Cross, Chikkaveeranna Road, Bannimantap, passed away yesterday night in city.

He leaves behind his daughter Theetharamada Indira Nanjappa, son-in-law Kolera Prabhu Nanjappa, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Chirashantidhama in Gokulam this morning, according to family sources.

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Tuesday 25th January 2022

PM urges children to go vocal for local

New Delhi, Jan. 25 (UNI)- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday appealed to children to become ambassadors of his 'vocal for local' strategy to highlight the indigenous and achieve the goal of self-reliance.

Modi was interacting with the awardees of Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP) via video conferencing.

"Just as you came forward for the Swachch Bharat Abhiyan, I seek your cooperation in another area, come forward for 'vocal for local'. Make a list of products at your home that are not made in India. Ask your family that whenever a similar product is purchased next time, it should be a made in India product," Modi said, adding he firmly believes "the baal sena (children's army) would wholeheartedly extend support to him."

The Prime Minister said the credit for the success of Swachchh Bharat Abhiyaan goes to the children who inspired their families and neighbours to make the cleanliness drive a reality.

Modi remembered the glorious history of the freedom struggle and gave examples of freedom fighters like Khudiram Bose, Kanakalata Baruah and Rani Gaidinliu detailing how their exemplary courage at a young age contributed towards the country's Independence.

"These fighters had made the country's freedom the mission of their lives at a very young age and had dedicated themselves to it," he said.

"Another example is the bravery and sacrifice of Guru Gobind Singh ji's sons! Sahibzadas were very young when they sacrificed their lives with immense valour. Their sacrifices for India's civilisation, culture, faith and religion is unparalleled," Modi told the PMRBP awardees asking them to know more about the Sahibzadas and their sacrifice.

The PM also conferred digital certificates to PMRBP awardees for the year 2022 and 2021 using Blockchain Technology. This technology is being used for the first time for giving certificates to awardees.

The Prime Minister digitally transferred cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh to each awardee. This year, 29 children from across the country, under different categories of Bal Shakti Puraskar, were selected for PMRBP-2022.

The Government has been conferring the PMRBP award to children for their exceptional achievement in six categories — innovation, social service, scholastic, sports, art & culture and bravery.

The Prime Minister also hailed the parents and teachers of these children. The awardees will take part in the Republic Day parade like every year.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

At a certain stage in your life, when you are 18, you may be against marriage. But when you were three years of age, you were for marriage — your parents' marriage. Were you not glad that your parents had a stable marriage? When you are 18, you think of free sex, no marriage and everything. But once again, if you become 50 or 55, you will look for a relationship that lasts. It is your life, so it is for you to consider whether you want to live a life where you are emotionally always looking for someone, or whether you want to settle it in a certain way so that you can use your intelligence and time to create something else: your work or whatever you are doing. If emotions and body are settled, your ability to use your intelligence will be much better than if you have to walk around to find someone every day.

I am not making light of this but in the US, I see many women over 40, 45 years of age, wonderful people, who go sit in a bar and wait — these days they have all gone online — but otherwise, somebody needs to pick them up today. I think it is so terrible. A woman at 45 should have been loved and respected in a proper atmosphere, but now she is sitting there and looking for some strange guy to come her way, and she is going to make the judgment in the next 10 minutes when he buys her a drink or dinner or something. This is tragic. — *Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev in The New Indian Express*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Bubble that takes over a year to pop

Lille: A team of French Physicists announced that the bubble they had blew lasted for 465 days before popping.

The University of Lille team, whose findings were published in the journal Physical Review Fluids, said their research into soap bubbles found they tend to pop after just a few moments due to the "gravity-induced drainage and/or the evaporation of the liquid" inside the soap sphere.

The team, Aymeric Roux, Alexis Duchesne and Michael Baudoin, studied typical "fragile and ephemeral" soap bubbles and gas marbles, a type of bubble made from a liquid solution that contains plastic beads. The researchers said they analyzed water-based gas marbles and gas marbles made with a solution of water and glycerol, a compound commonly used in various foods and medicines. The gas marbles containing glycerol displayed particular longevity, with one of the bubbles lasting for a total 465 days before bursting and could be used to create stable foams.

Saree that fits in a matchbox

Hyderabad: Nalla Vijay, a weaver from Telangana, showcased his masterful weaving by creating a saree that can fit into a matchbox. It is 5.5 meter long, hand-woven with natural silk and only natural dyes made out of vegetables. The awe-inspiring saree has a full utility factor as it can be worn like a regular saree.

Nalla Vijay presented his creation to Telangana Ministers on Jan. 11 in Hyderabad. In 2015, another matchbox saree was gifted to former US President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama when they visited India.

The official Twitter handle of the official account of Telangana IT, Industries and Municipal Administration shared pictures of Vijay's saree with netizens appreciating the exquisite hand-woven fabric.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Zinc: It helps to control inflammation in the body. Because of phytates, the absorption of zinc is not too good. Heating, sprouting, or fermenting helps to increase absorption.
Source: oysters, crabs, poultry, and legumes like chickpeas, lentils, and beans. Nuts like peanuts, cashews and almonds also boost up your zinc intake.

By Kavya J - Department of Nutrition & Dietetics
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Haj pilgrimage-2022:
Apply online before Jan. 31

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (KS) - Haj Committee of India had commenced the process of application for Haj-2022 from Nov. 1, 2021 and the same will conclude on Jan. 31, 2022.

A free online filling of applications for Haj pilgrims of Mysuru, Mandya and Chamarajanagar districts has been organised at Phulwari, Muslim Girls Orphanage on Ashoka Road in city.

Applicants should have taken two doses of COVID-19 vaccine. There is no age limit for pilgrims. Ladies without Mehram can also apply and a group of 4-5 pilgrims can also apply.

Applicants should bring a machine readable original passport which is valid till Dec. 31, 2022, original Aadhaar card, copy of a cancelled cheque or Bank pass book, photo with white background, Vaccination certificate, blood group certificate and PAN Card.

Those interested may utilise the opportunity at the Girls Orphanage during office hours. For details contact Abdul Azeez Chand, Mohammed Mumtaz Ahmed or Muzamil on Mob: 97417-89000, 99020-67864 or Ph: 0821-2417702.

REALLY...?

- ***India was once an Island. In the sense, around 10 million years ago the land was a part of a supercontinent called Gondwanaland, which was collided 50 million years later with Asia. Evidence could still be witnessed by fossilised sea shells found high in the mountains.***
- ***From the 4th century BC for around 1,000 years, India was the only source of diamonds in the world. The original diamonds were found in the Krishna River Delta.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Once Santa went for skydiving. The instructor told him to open the parachute when he starts recognising the faces of the people standing on the ground.
Santa doubting the instructions, "What if I don't know anyone?!"

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.68
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 100.63
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.33
1 Euro	= Rs. 84.49

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

	JANUARY 23	JANUARY 24
Day's Positive Cases	4,359	4,105
Total Positive Cases	2,03,030	2,07,135
Day's Discharges	437	1,703
Total Discharges	1,84,131	1,85,834
Day's Deaths	1	3
Total Deaths	2,452	2,455
Total Active Cases	16,447	18,846

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

VOICE OF THE READER

Scholarly article on a visionary educationist

Sir,

The 3-part article titled ***"A visionary educationist of Mysore: N.S. Subba Rao"*** under the column 'Mysore Memories' by Dr. Bhagirath S. Naganath was liked by many persons like me as it took us to yesteryears and gave a peep into the lives of the noblemen of the past.

Subba Rao

I thank the author for all the efforts taken to prepare the article and for the excellent photographs which are rare and requires to be preserved for the present and future generations.

Star of Mysore stands in line with any leading newspaper giving vent to the problems of people and at the same time publishing articles of interest and high scholarly value.

— Y.K. Sheshadri

Mysuru 20.1.2022

Obituary

S. Rama Bhatta

Mysuru, Jan. 25- S. Rama Bhatta (89), a resident of Brigade Palmgrove in Bogadi, passed away at a private hospital in city yesterday. He leaves behind his wife Kamakshi, daughter R.K. Rekha, son-in-law A.S. Yoganarasimha (Hon. Secretary of BAI, Mysore Centre), granddaughters A.Y. Shreya and A.Y. Smruthi and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill yesterday evening.

Ramprasad

Ramprasad (68), a resident of N.R. Mohalla, passed away yesterday following a heart attack. He had served as the General Secretary of Nagarika Hitharakshana Vedike and Vice-President of Jai Bhuvaneshwari Kannada Kala Samithi.

He leaves behind his wife, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at Jodi Tenginamara Burial Grounds in Bannimantap this noon.

T.S. Nanjundaswamy

T.S. Nanjundaswamy (Swamy), a resident of Giridarshini Layout, passed away yesterday in city. He was 45.

He leaves behind his parents,

wife, one son and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Lalithadripura burial Grounds this noon, according to family sources.

Jogi Siddaiah (Siddanna)

T. Narasipur: Jogi Siddaiah (Siddanna), a resident of Ganiganakoppal, Sosle Hobli, T. Narasipur taluk, passed away this morning. He was 59.

He leaves behind his wife Shanthamma, son Rajeev, daughter Sowmya, brothers Boranna, Somanna & Shiva and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Ganiganakoppal this afternoon.

K.C. Ramegowda

Hirikyathanahalli: K.C. Ramegowda (97), retired PWD Civil Engineer and former Harave Gram Panchayat President, passed away on Sunday.

He leaves behind one son, four daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the family's farm land yesterday afternoon.

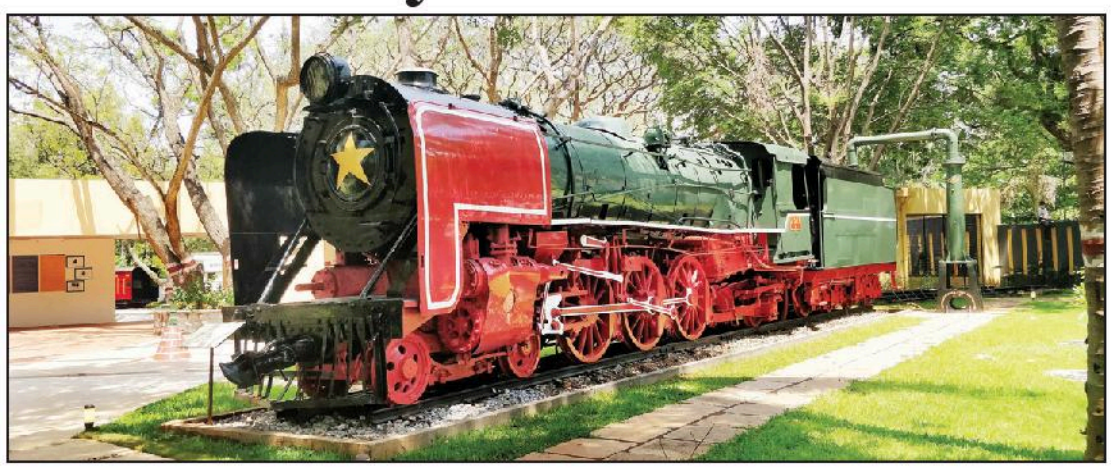
T. Venkatesh

Hullahalli: T. Venkatesh (47), a Village Accountant at Hullahalli Taluk Office and a resident of KRS North Bank in Srirangapatna taluk, passed away yesterday.

He leaves behind his wife Saritha, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at his native place this afternoon, according to family sources.

Steam-era water column comes to life in Mysuru Rail Museum



Mysuru, Jan. 25- With a view to add value to the Rail Museum, the South Western Railway (SWR) has restored a steam-era water column to its full functional order. Many Railway Stations during the steam-era had a water column for filling water into the water tank in the tender trailing the steam locomotive, which also had an enclosure for the fuel for locomotive, such as coal, wood or oil.

Water was one of the most important elements used by a steam locomotive. When heated, the water turns to an invisible vapour known as steam. The volume of water expands as it turns into steam inside the boiler of the locomotive, thereby creating high pressure. The expansion of steam pushes the pistons connected to the driving wheels, thus operating the locomotive.

In standard operating conditions, steam locomotives consume about 110-115 litres of water for travelling a distance of one mile (1.6 km). A Metre Gauge YP Class steam locomotive which was in use for hauling passenger-carrying trains could hold 3,000 gallons of water and 9.5 metric tonnes of coal in its tender. Other tank steam locomotives had water tanks ranging from 300 to 1,750 gallons.

Some tenders of Broad Gauge locomotives were designed to carry 15 tons of coal and 6,000 gallons of water but the water capacity was later reduced to 5,500 gallons to keep the axle load under 18.5 ton limit. Water was perhaps the most significant limitation with most steam locomotives hauling loaded trains at express speeds necessitating refilling every 100 miles (160 kms). 9 tons of coal gave about 350 miles (560 kms) range.

Rahul Agarwal, Divisional Railway Manager, SWR, Mysuru Division, has in a press release said that the Rail Museum visitors would be happy to see the fully functional 1964-built water column and appreciate the critical role of this rustic system-equipment of the Railways during the long years of steam traction in all parts of the country.

Cycling solo to save Govt. Schools, Colleges

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (MTY&BCT)- While the State Government has scrapped its own student-friendly bicycle scheme to Government school children as an incentive for them to reach their far away schools, here is a youth who is cycling across the length and breadth of the country to create awareness on the need of saving Government Schools and Colleges.

The lone cyclist feels that the Government budgetary allocation to its institutions is meagre and in the due course, these Government institutions will cease to exist depriving poor children of education.

The cyclist, Sudarshan of Hanumanahalli in Chitradurga, was in city on Sunday as part of his solo ride. He started his rally over five months ago and has covered Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Reaching Mangaluru, Sudarshan arrived at Mysuru covering over 6,000 kilometres. He was received in Mysuru by social activists Prema Bodhi and Dhanush.

Speaking to reporters about his mission, the youth said that as years pass by, the condition of Government Schools and Colleges has only deteriorated thanks to the onslaught of private schools and as if to rub salt on the wounds, the Government releases paltry sums for education.

He alleged that the Government was intentionally neglecting its colleges and schools, making people voluntarily admit their children to private institutions. He claimed that only Government Schools can provide social justice and also ensure that a strong foundation is laid among students in nation building.

Sudarshan said that as per the statistics released by the State Government, teachers and lecturer posts in over 41,000 colleges are lying vacant and these posts are not filled as the Government is under pressure by private institutions. He called for higher budgetary allocation to Government Schools.

NEWS BRIEFS

CMA Course

The Institute of Cost Accountants of India, Mysuru Chapter, has announced that the last date for admission to Foundation, Intermediate and Final Course of CMA (Cost and Management Accountants) is Jan. 31, 2022 for June 2022 term examination. Interested candidates may contact the Institute, #1,420, 7th Cross, Krishnamurthypuram, between 10 am and 1 pm on all working days or call Ph: 0821-2331083 or Mob: 99001-11552 or 97317-89222.

MCC's Continued Council Meeting

The Continued General Council Meeting of Mysore City Corporation (MCC) will be held at its Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar auditorium on Jan. 27 at 3 pm. The earlier meeting was held on Jan. 17.

Discount on books

As part of its 55th anniversary, city's Sapna Book House, located on N.S. Road, Devaraja Mohalla in city, will be offering 50% discount on Kannada and English books from Jan. 26 to Feb. 6. For details, contact Ph: 0821- 4004499.

Typing workshop

The Rashtriya Computer Saksharatha Samithi, Kuvempunagar, in association with QDP Technologies, will be conducting a 10-day 'Kannada Nudi' computer typing workshop from Feb. 2. The workshop is open for those in the age group of 18 to 80 years. The last date for registration is Jan. 31. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2560268 or Mob: 83103-06882.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Today	:	120.80 feet
Yesterday	:	121.04 feet
Inflow	:	757 cusecs
Outflow	:	4,148 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2,282.60 feet
Inflow	:	188 cusecs
Outflow	:	400 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,856.50 feet
Inflow	:	232 cusecs
Outflow	:	50 cusecs

Vedike stages protest for repair of roads after youth dies in accident

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (PM&KS)- Residents, led by Mysuru Pragnavantha Vedike, following the death of a youth in a road accident on Jan. 23 night, opposite Rama Mandira on Kantharaj Urs Road, staged a protest, demanding the authorities concerned to take up road repair works.

The residents, who assembled at the accident spot, held the bad condition of the road responsible for the youth's death.

They alleged that most of the city roads were in bad condition and motorists, especially two-wheeler riders, were finding it difficult to move on these so-called roads. But still, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has turned a blind eye and has forgotten its responsibilities, the protesters said.

Pointing out that most of the city roads have not been asphalted since about two-three years, which was leading to frequent accidents, the protesters said that the MCC has also not maintained main roads which witness heavy vehicular traffic.

The protesters urged the authorities concerned to release grants meant to fill up potholes in city and take up the works at the earliest. They also demanded the MCC to provide compensation to the youth, who had died in the road accident.

Sri Krishnarajendra Co-operative Bank Ltd.Vice-President D. Basavaraju (Basappa), leaders Vikram Iyengar, G. Raghavendra, Vinay Kanagal, S.N. Rajesh, Chethan, Kantharaju, Srikanth Kashyap and others were present.

Mother unites son in death

Nagamangala, Jan. 25 (Mahesh&KS)- A woman, shocked on hearing the news of her son's death, died a few moments later, thus uniting with her beloved son in death. The incident took place at Hosahalli Koppal in the taluk on Saturday.

Kushal & his mother Lakshmamma

Kushal (45), a farmer, who was watching TV at his house, is said to have collapsed and died following low blood pressure and a few moments later, Kushal's mother Lakshmamma (69), suffered a heart attack and died.

The villagers, who paid their last respects to the deceased mother and son, also performed their last rites together.

A photographer by profession, Kushal's wife is said to have left him and Kushal was depressed over this, resulting in Kushal taking ill. Lakshmamma, who too was depressed over Kushal's life, finally united him in death, villagers said.

Mekedatu project implementation

Vatal Nagaraj accuses political parties of enacting drama

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (PM&DM)- Accusing all the political parties of enacting a drama over Mekedatu and Mahadayi water projects, Kannada Chaluvali leader Vatal Nagaraj urged all the elected representatives of the political parties to quit their positions and take to the streets for implementation of the water projects. He was speaking to press persons after staging a demonstration at Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Circle (Hardinge Circle) here on Sunday.

Kannada Chaluvali leader Vatal Nagaraj and his supporters staging a protest at Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Circle in city on Sunday.

Maintaining that while the Opposition Congress began the drama by taking out a Mekedatu Padayatra, the ruling BJP enacted another by stopping it, while the JD(S) too threw its hat in the ring by announcing 'Janata Jaladhare' yatra.

Accusing the Congress of doing nothing for the implementation of Mekedatu and Mahadayi water projects when in power, Nagaraj contended that the grand old party is now insulting Mahatma Gandhi by taking out padayatra.

Asserting that it is now clear that the Centre is rendering injustice to Karnataka, he wanted Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to make his stand clear on the issue. Charging the MPs of the State of being silent even though the State is being rendered gross injustice, he termed the MPs of the State as spineless.

Referring to the third wave of attack of the deadly COVID pandemic, he urged the Government to take necessary measures for checking the spread of the virus.

He also wanted the Government to order shutting down of all educational institutions for physical classes until the pandemic is completely eradicated.

Kannada activists Mugur Nanjundaswamy, Thayur Vittalamurthy, Shivashankar and others were present.

Unidentified bodies found

Nanjangud, Jan. 25 (KS)- In separate cases, Nanjangud Town Police have found bodies of unidentified persons in their jurisdiction.

In the first case, the Police have found a body of an unidentified man aged between 65 and 70 years, next to Aralikatte near Hadinaaru Kaalu Mantapa, close to Kapila River and have shifted the body to the mortuary besides registering a case. The deceased was wearing a white coloured full arm shirt, green and white coloured dhoti.

In the second case, a body of an unidentified man was found near a complex close to Aryabhavan Hotel. The deceased is aged between 65 and 70 years, 5.5 ft. tall and was wearing a khaki coloured half arm sweater.

The kith and kin of the deceased persons, if any, may contact Nanjangud Town Police Station on Ph: 08221-228383 or the District Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2444800.

Woman, 3 children go missing

T. Narasipur, Jan. 25 (SK&KS)- A woman, along with her three children, has been reported missing since Jan. 23 from the town. The missing persons are 33-year-old Mubaseera Bhanu, wife of Showkath of Indira Colony, one-year-old Mohammed Rehan, 10-year-old Mohammed Jeshan and six-year-old Afia Kownen.

Those having any information about the missing woman and her children may contact T. Narasipur Town Police Station on Ph: 08227-260990.

Girl goes missing

Rohini

Nagamangala: An 18-year-old girl, who left her home on Dec. 30, saying that she was going for her computer classes, has since gone missing.

The missing girl is Rohini, daughter of Narayanagowda of Thiruganahalli, Honakere hobli here. It is learnt that in November, Rohini had left her home and was traced by Hubballi Police, while she was on her way to Mumbai.

A missing complaint has been lodged at Nagamangala Rural Police Station.

App to detect forest fires at Nagarahole

Hunsur, Jan. 25 (Raghu, MTY &BCT)- Diligently following the age-old and trusted system of creating fire lines (creating a bald patch of land between green swathes) to prevent summer forest fires, the Karnataka Forest Department this year has moved a step ahead and has adopted technology for the same task.

Relying on technology, it has come up with an app to keep forest fires in check and this year it has been implemented in the Nagarahole Tiger Reserve.

What prompted the Forest Department to go in for technology is the devastating fire at Bandipur Tiger Reserve in February 2019 where more than 15,400 acres of forests were burnt.

Following the devastating fire, a need was felt to adopt technology. The fire alert app that has been operationalised by the Forest Department at Nagarahole has been developed along with the Karnataka State Remote Sensing Application Centre (KSRSAC). This is for the first time such an app is being used and the Department Officers have pinned high hopes on its efficiency.

The biggest advantage is the time saved between the detection of fire and the alert received. The new app is an improvisation over the Forest Survey of India (FSI) fire alert system that was implemented in 2004. It is based on inputs from two collaborative arrangements — National Aeronautics and Space Administration-Indian Space Research Organisation (NASA-ISRO) and ISRO-FSI.

When a fire breaks out inside forests, the sensors that are placed strategically inside the woods transmit the alerts to the earth station of the National Remote Sensing Centre. The hotspots are then transmitted to the FSI electronically, which processes them, generates alerts and disseminates them to registered end users.

Early alert, early action

While the FSI alert takes around four hours between detection and alert, the app developed with KSRSAC can save about 30 minutes to 90 minutes as alerts are sent between two-and-a-half hours and three hours of detection. This app can clearly indicate the location of the fire and accordingly, relief can be rushed.

Another feature of this KSRSAC app is that the end-user can transmit the fire in case it is spotted by a watcher or a forest guard. The ground-level staff can relay the information of the fire to the headquarters through the app so that the other personnel of various beats are alerted automatically. This way, the fire can be extinguished before it spreads to other areas.

The KSRSAC app can also indicate the temperature, humidity, wind speed and wind direction in the fire area, which will help the ground-level staff know how to approach the fire and from which direction.

App can detect encroachments too

The app can also check modification in land use as the Department has digitised all their land records and has compared that with the Revenue Department records for verification. Now, 80 percent of the data has been digitised and any change in land use can easily be detected.

Earlier, land use surveys used to be done while patrolling on foot. Now armed with digital data, these surveys can be conducted with the help of satellite images and algorithms. Any kind of encroachment, chopping of trees or drying up of water bodies can be detected.

9,200 km of fire line

This time, authorities at Nagarahole have directed field staff to prepare 9,200 kms of fire line in all the zones of the Tiger Reserve — Hunsur, D.B. Kuppe, Nagarahole, Veeranahosahalli, Anechowkur, Kallahalla, Metikuppe and Antharasanthe. Usually, in the 843 sq.km of the National Park, fire lines would be made in 2,536 km but this year, 9,200 km fire lines have been created. Over 400 watchers have been deputed for summer duty to guard the forests from the infernos and they will keep an eye on the forests from 31 watch towers 24x7. Apart from the human vigil, drones with thermal sensors will be used as additional fire detection methods both during day time and after dark.

City students propose innovative solution for recharging ring wells

Mysuru, Jan. 25- India being a tropical country, the temperatures during summer rise up to 40-45°C. Due to this the ring wells, which supply water for agricultural land lacking irrigation, dry up to alarming levels. This puts lot of hardship on farmers, who depend on ring wells for irrigation.

The students of Civil Engineering at the National Institute of Engineering (NIE), Mysuru, have come out with an innovative solution to increase the yield of ring well without increasing the diameter of ring wells. Their solution involves introduction of slotted and perforated laterals in radially outward direction along the circumference of the ring well. This enables the farmers to achieve more yield without increasing the diameter of the ring well.

NIE students** (standing from left) **Shashank S. Shastry, M. Shivaprasad, L. Sanjay Raj and Sharanprasad B. Rajesh seen with** (sitting from left) **Dr. H.S. Prasanna, Guide, Dr. N.V. Raghavendra, Principal and Dr. K.C. Manjunath, HoD, Civil Engineering Department.

The student team comprising Shashank S. Shastry, Sharanprasad B. Rajesh, M. Shivaprasad and L. Sanjay Raj of pre-final year, under the supervision of Dr. H.S. Prasanna, Professor in Civil Engineering and Dean (Planning & Infrastructure), carried out the research study in two stages. The preliminary experiments were carried out in the college laboratories, which was followed by extensive trails in the field.

Through rigorous testing, an increase in yield of 20% was observed in laboratory and about 40% of yield increase was observed in the field. The students presented the research outcome in the virtual conference (Indian Geotechnical Conference 2021) held by the Indian Geotechnical Society under the theme of Geotechnical, Geological and Geophysical Investigation with the title "A Parametric study of the Yield of Ring Well – A Practical Approach".

The paper was adjudged as the Best Technical Paper in the theme and accepted for publication in the Springer journal with a cash prize of 100 Euros was awarded to the team. Research scholars, NGOs and farmers, who are interested in details, can contact the Centre for Research & Consultancy (CRC), NIE on Mob: 94490-89784, according to a press release from Dr. N.V. Raghavendra, Principal, NIE.

In UP, BJP's leaders know only love

Point of VIEW

T.J.S. George

In a matter of weeks, Uttar Pradeshians will be lining up to vote. This election will be of considerable significance to all of India. Yogi Adityanath, the politician dressed in saffron, is well-known for his ambition to replace Narendra Modi as the BJP's Prime Ministerial nominee. In such situations, Modi develops ten eyes and twenty ears. This internal *yudh* makes the UP elections a historical tug of war.

Election time is the time — the only time — when ordinary citizens get extraordinary attention as voters. To get those votes, parties and politicians go to any length. Once upon a time they could directly bribe voters; actually give cash. That's not done now because now things are a bit more sophisticated. Politicians recognise that and rise to the occasion.

A few days ago the Prime Minister transferred Rs. 476 crore to the accounts of 53,000 women Self Help Groups (SHGs) in UP. What are these SHGs and who benefits from them? We are free to form our own impressions from the few available facts. They are groups said to be functioning under the Deen Dayal Antyodaya Mission. This was part of a capitalisation fund of Rs. 1,625 crore that was disbursed to more than four lakh SHGs. Plenty of money which means plenty of opportunities to win the support of voters because officially the control buttons are at the Prime Minister's Office — and the PMO is at your fingertips.

These are days when fingertips can work wonders. SHGs are not the only *akshaya patras* responding to VIP fingertips. There are other wonderful-sounding initiatives. For example, the *Kanya Sumangala Scheme.* What a noble concept, arranging *sumangala* for *Kanyas.* It gets nobler when we realise that it enables the Government to transfer Rs. 20 crores to the accounts of approved groups.

"Approved groups." Ah, there's the key. It is irrelevant to ask where this kind of money is coming from. But it is relevant to look at what such munificence has meant to the national exchequer. Since 2014, when the Modi Government came to power, the rupee has fallen quite noticeably. The rate was 63 rupees to the dollar that year. In 2020, just six years later, it became 76 to the dollar. This was when the Prime Minister was saying publicly that he would take the rupee high and make it 40 to a dollar. Economic growth rate in this period has been zero in automobile and residential property sales. So 60 percent of the population were surviving on free grain.

The Prime Minister's response was to rely on his oratory. He spoke of how Aurangazeb tried to change civilisation with the sword, but Shivaji rose to protect India's culture. Justice Fali Nariman wondered why Babar or Akbar was not cited instead of Aurangazeb. "Akbar was famous as one of the most secular rulers that any nation ever knew at any point in time," he said. He quoted Babar's letter to his son Humayun asking that justice be delivered as per the tenets of each community.

Tenets in today's India have scant regard for secular ideas, or for free speech. Although the prevailing notion is that free speech is truly free in India, British-period sedition laws are used against even "youngsters, students and comedians" who criticise the Government. "It is time," said Justice Nariman, "to do away completely with the sedition laws and allow free speech so long as, ultimately, it does not extort somebody to violence."

But people in power, especially when they have an insecurity complex, tend to hear the voices of only their followers. A few days ago Madhya Pradesh Minister Kamal Patel claimed that Modi was born to save India, that he was an *avatar* of God, like Rama and Krishna. His reasoning was that, when crisis develops in a country and dictators rise, God appears in human form. Like Rama appeared to end the misrule of Ravana. Similarly, when the misdeeds of the Congress increased, God appeared as Modi to save the country. He has come as Viswaguru of India, leading the nation along the right tracks. When we have Ministers who see God's actions with such certainty, what scope is there for those who do not have such easy access to God?

Some of our official patriots get angry at the very mention of "hate speech." Keshav Prasad Maurya, UP's BJP stalwart, got furious when the subject was raised at a recent interview. He snatched the reporter's mask and forced the crew to delete the footage, as the *BBC* said later. "We don't need to prove ourselves," he said. Lesson to learn: BJP leaders do not know what is hate. Love is their guiding light. Damn the people who have to prove themselves.

National Voters Day: Judge cautions against selling votes

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (PM&DM)- Cautioning the electorate against falling prey to any type of allurements, Principal District and Sessions Court Judge M.L. Raghunath observed that democracy will be under severe threat if we failed to elect good people as our rulers.

He was speaking after inaugurating the National Voters Day organised by the District Administration at Jayachamaraja Wadiyar auditorium in MCC premises here this morning.

Stressing on the need for everyone to exercise their franchise, Judge Raghunath said that voting right is a Constitutional right and everyone should exercise it carefully and thoughtfully.

Pointing out that the first ever National Voters Day was celebrated on Jan. 25, 2011, Judge Raghunath said that the day marked to encourage more young voters to take part in the electoral process. Noting that this year is the 12th edition of the day, he said that the theme for this year is '*Making Elections Inclusive, Accessible And Participative*'.

Explaining the significance of the Day, he said that the objective is to identify all those eligible to vote, inspire people to vote and assure voters about the safety of electoral process.

Reiterating the need for everyone to cast their ballots, Judge Raghunath said that all eligible adults should judiciously exercise their franchise and ensure 100 percent voting in all elections.

Maintaining that those who do not want to vote should at least exercise the option of NOTA (None Of The Above), he said that everyone must understand that taking part in the poll process is key for the success of democracy.

Referring to the conduct of Lok Adalat, Judge Raghunath said that over 52,000 long-pending cases have been settled through negotiation at the Lok Adalats held in Mysuru after he took over as the Principal Judge. Highlighting the benefits for litigants to take part in the Adalat, he said that the first Lok Adalat of the new year will take place on Mar. 12.

MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, in his address, said that voting is the fundamental right of everyone and as such no one should miss the opportunity of taking part in the electoral process. Highlighting the role of young voters in the working of democracy, he said it was disappointing to note that young and well-educated voters are reluctant to exercise their franchise.

ZP CEO A.M. Yogesh administered the Voters Pledge and several young voters were distributed voter ID cards at the event.

Senior Civil Judge Devaraj Bhute, who is also Member-Secretary of District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), distributed gift vouchers to the winners of various contests organised by SVEEP (Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation Programme) of Election Commission of India.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bagadi Gautham, MCC Additional Commissioner M.J. Roopa, MCC Deputy Commissioner (Administration) M.K. Savitha and others were present.

Sudden spurt in cases attributed to backlog reports, says DC

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (PM&DM)- With the district reporting more than 4,000 COVID positive cases for three consecutive days (Jan.22, 23 and 24) causing concern among people, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bagadi Gautham clarified that the sudden spurt in the cases is because of addition of all backlog reports.

Speaking to presspersons on the sidelines of the National Voters Day this morning, he said that the sudden increase in the numbers is due to addition of all backlog reports that remained pending over the past few days.

"However, from today the number of cases is expected to be only one-third of what was recorded in the past three days as the reports will be added on a daily basis," he pointed out.

Replying to a question on reports that COVID cases in Mysuru will reach the peak in the first week of February, the DC said that as per his knowledge, Mysuru has already reached its peak and the pandemic is expected to subside in the coming days.

When asked why schools were re-opened in a hurry when the district is witnessing a rapid spread of the virus, Dr. Gautham said that this was not his own decision . The schools were ordered to re-open following a Government order on Friday last covering all districts of the State except Bengaluru. On measures taken by the district administration, he said that a committee comprising the DHO, BEO and Tahsildar has been formed and entrusted with the power to order shut down of schools, if they are found to be COVID clusters.

COVID War Room operations re-start

(Continued from page 1)

Yesterday was the third successive day when the number of positive COVID-19 cases crossed the 4,000 mark. On Saturday, 4,601 cases were reported and on Sunday, the district reported 4,359 cases.

Dr. Seethalakshmi told *Star of Mysore* that along with the War Room operations, COVID Helpline 0821-2424111 has been re-launched with 10 lines where people can call for any COVID-related queries. The list of daily positives is uploaded on the web portal accessed by the War Room staff in a particular format called 'Service 33' where the list that has the names and phone numbers of people testing positive is downloaded. Individual calls are made to each person by the War Room staff (triaging centre) to assess their health conditions and needs.

Every War Room employee is expected to call 150 to 200 positive persons and they work in three shifts — 8 am to 2 pm, 2 pm to 8 pm and 8 pm to 8 am. Lunch is provided to them on behalf of Sri Chamundeshwari Temple and infrastructure including computers, laptops, SIM cards and mobile phones are supplied by the District Administration.

During the calls, the health of the patients is assessed with details like space at home for isolation, number of family members, comorbidities, medication history, breathing issues if any. In case of serious illness, beds are arranged. "We even trace the primary and secondary contacts of the patients and take appropriate measures," said Dr. Seethalakshmi.

"Learning from the past, where there was a delay in coordination and availability of data, we have already prepared details of beds in Private and Government Hospitals. The first 50 percent of beds will be reserved in these areas when cases rise. The list of beds fitted with oxygen, ICU and other categories is ready," she said. As per the order issued by Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bagadi Gautham, priority is given to fill the Government Hospitals. "Only if patients have any reservations in admitting to Government Hospitals, they are referred to Private Hospitals," she added.

Patients hostile as COVID stigma refuses to die down

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (MTY&BCT)- Now COVID-19 variant may be relatively milder than its more devastating predecessors but the efforts to tackle its spread have by no means been easier. Staff and volunteers at War Room and home isolation teams have to face rudeness and hostility of patients as well as their family members in most cases.

Many persons who test positive do not respond properly when the volunteers and health department staff deputed at 24x7 War Room make calls and they have to face rude replies. "The stigma has still not gone and misconceptions still prevail. People do not understand that the symptoms are mild in most cases now. However, we make our best efforts to minimise their anxiety," said District AYUSH Officer Dr. B.S. Seethalakshmi, Nodal Officer for the War Room.

Volunteers said a widespread hesitation by COVID patients in sharing their details has been among the biggest obstacles that they face while trying to assist them. Many get verbally aggressive. The situation has not changed in the third wave.

Many people who are in home isolation hesitate to provide their addresses. "As per policy we have to provide home isolation kits to patients and to deliver them, we ask for addresses but people hesitate as they fear that their neighbours will come to know about their positive status. However, we convince them that we will come to their houses only to deliver the home isolation kits. Still people do not part with their home addresses. So it becomes a cumbersome exercise," she said.

Also, most of the calls — over 80 percent — received at the COVID Helpline 0821-2424111 are regarding vaccines. "Now that the booster dose has been announced, people want to know about the availability, time gap, after-effects and also the vaccination booth time slots," she said.

District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. K.H. Prasad told *SOM* that due to communication gap and lack of information, many people who are testing positive are ending up in front of the DHO Office at Nazarbad. "We are appealing to them to call the Helpline 0821-2424111 where they will get all the information including bed availability in serious cases," he said.

DSS' poster campaign against Anti-Conversion Bill from tomorrow

Mysuru, Jan.25 (PM&DM)- Accusing the BJP Government of snatching away the Constitutional right of the people to choose the religion of their choice, by introducing the Anti-Religious Conversion Bill, the Dalit Sangharsha Samiti (DSS) Okkoota will launch a 20-day poster campaign from tomorrow (Jan.26). Announcing this at a press meet at Patrakarthara Bhavan here yesterday, Okkoota Convenor K.N. Shivalingaiah termed the Bill as unconstitutional. Pointing out that the Okkoota has decided to celebrate the Republic Day as a narrative of Democratic, Secular and Socialism principles, he said that the poster campaign on the dangers of Anti-Religious Conversion Bill will be launched in front of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's statue in Town Hall premises at 11 am tomorrow. The campaign will go on till Feb.14, he said.

MYSORE WINTER RACES 2022

(By Our Racing Correspondent)

RAUCH for Air Force Trophy

Mysuru, Jan. 25- Following are the selections for the 15th Day of Mysore Winter Races to be held here on Thursday - Jan. 27, 2022:

1.	1.15 PM	**THE B. SHETTIGERI PLATE**
		1400 mts. - rated 00 to 25
		1. LADY BLUE 2. HIGHLAND PARK
2.	1.45 PM	**THE DUPONT PLATE - DIV. II**
		1400 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. PILGRIM 2. AIR VELOCITY
3.	2.15 PM	**THE FULL SPEED PLATE**
		1200 mts. - rated 40 to 65
		1. D. THREE NINE 2. PERFECT LEGACY
4.	2.45 PM	**THE DUPONT PLATE - DIV. I**
		1400 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. SUSSEX PRIDE 2. SHE'S A TIGER
5.	3.15 PM	**THE REGENCY GOLD PLATE**
		1400 mts. - rated 60 and above
		1. ATHULYA 2. NRI SUPER KING
6.	3.45 PM	**THE AIR FORCE TROPHY**
		1800 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. RAUCH 2. ASCENDENT
7.	4.15 PM	**THE VIRIJA PLATE**
		1200 mts. - rated 40 to 65
		1. TIA MARIA 2. AQUILA D' ORO

DAY'S BEST: *TIA MARIA*

DOUBLE: *1. PILGRIM 2. D. THREE NINE*

JACKPOT: *3, 4, 5, 6, 7*

I TREBLE: *2, 3, 4* ***II TREBLE:*** *5, 6, 7* ***EXACTAS:*** *6, 7*

—Tipster PGC

Ambaari city trips

(Continued from page 1)

Though there are five double-decker buses, only one bus with about 10 tourists is making just one round of two-hour duration daily, KSTDC sources said. The bus, with a total seating capacity of 60 (40 in the lower deck with AC and 20 on the open roof), gives a better view of places of tourist interest in city.

Despite relaxation in the weekend curfew, only over 10 tourists come to KSTDC Office on JLB Road to buy tickets and go on city rounds. "There were no crowds on Saturday and Sunday too and as such, we operated only one bus that too with only 10 people while the actual capacity of the bus is 60," said an official.

While one Ambaari bus is stationed in the KSTDC office premises, the other four are stationed inside the KSRTC Bus Depot at Bannimantap. The duration of each trip is about two hours, with intermittent stops in between.

Audio and visual guides about each tourist destination is displayed on monitors inside the bus all through the tour and a public address system with information about the specialties of Mysuru city including the art, culture, cuisines and more is made. KSTDC is hoping that more tourists will prefer this bus in the coming days.

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Plant Operation and Maintenance Division
Post Bag no. 1. Yelwal, Mysore 571 130

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysore invites For & on behalf of the President of India, Sealed item rate tenders from experienced Contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for the following work(s): The Chief Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysore invites For & on behalf of the President of India, Sealed item rate tenders from experienced Contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for the following work(s):

1	Tender Reference No.	BARC/MYS/PO&M/MP/WO/
2	Name of work	Mechanical maintenance jobs in process plant at BARC, Mysore.
3	Estimated Cost	Rs. 4,25,000/- (Rupees Four Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Only)
4	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.8500/- (Rupees Eight thousand five hundred only)
5	Period of Completion	10 Months (200 Working days)
6	Security Deposit	2.5 % of tendered value
7	Performance Guarantee	3% of tendered value
8	Cost of Tender Document	Rs.500/- (non-refundable)
9	Tender Sale Period	From 27/01/2022 To 07/02/2022 upto 16.00 hrs
10	Due date & Time for submission of Tender	On 08/02/2022 at 15.00 hrs.
11	Date & time of opening of Tender	08/02/2022 On 15.15 hrs.
11	Place of Tender Submission	In Box No: 3 at Building No: 2 in BARC, Mysore
12	Place of Tender opening	Building No: 2 in BARC, Mysore
13	Contact Nos.	Head of Division / EIC : 0821-240 6530 Office : 0821 – 240 6872

Tender documents will be issued only in person on written request and not by post or Courier.

Chief Engineer
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
For & on behalf of the President of India

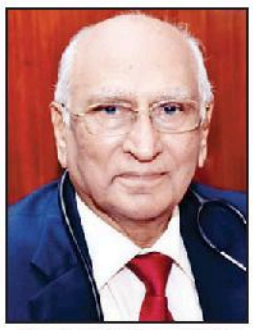
Visit our website:
www.starofmysore.com

The First President of India
Dr. Rajendra Prasad

By Dr. C.D. Sreenivasa Murthy

TALL LEADERS: **Pandit Nehru, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and Dr. Rajendra Prasad.**

India gained independence on 15th August 1947, but technically it was not yet a fully free nation. The newly independent country had a dominion status and King George VI of Britain was its nominal head. The process of giving it a Constitution and making India a Republic had started even before the day of independence with the formation of the Constituent Assembly.



Dr. Sreenivasa Murthy

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected unanimously as the President of Constituent Assembly on 11th December 1946. Earlier, Dr. Prasad was a Cabinet Minister in the first Ministry of Nehru formed before independence. With his pleasant countenance, patience and deft handling of the Constituent Assembly as its President, he had won the admiration of the Congress party and the Indian public. He was called "Ajatha Shatru," a person with no enemies. The Constituent Assembly adopted the newly framed Constitution of India on 26th November 1949.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was born in a landed kayastha family on December 3, 1884, at Zeradei, a village in Bihar. He was a brilliant student and obtained his legal degree and later a Doctorate in Law from Calcutta University. He was very successful and had a lucrative legal practice at Calcutta and Patna High Courts.

Dr. Prasad was drawn early into the non-cooperation movement for independence, became a comrade of Mahatma Gandhi and was imprisoned a number of years during the freedom movement. He was President of the Indian National Congress during the years 1934, 1935 and 1939. Dr. Prasad was a devout religious person who had great respect for the ethos and traditions of Hinduism.

Pandit Nehru and Dr. Prasad were poles apart in their outlook and this brought them into conflict many times. Nehru was a secularist, socialist and never practiced the rituals and traditions of Hinduism while Dr. Prasad was a staunch Hindu deeply entrenched in the beliefs and traditions of religion. The major public confrontations between Nehru and Prasad started, even before the birth of Indian Republic, with the **Hindu Code Bills.**

Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar presented the draft in October 1947 in the Constituent Assembly and Nehru strongly supported the Bill. They wanted this Bill to be part of the Constitution. Under this, a rule code for all Hindus was to be created. As the President of the Constituent Assembly, Dr. Rajendra Prasad intervened. He believed religion in the society is equally important as anything else and wanted to have a **Uniform Civil Code** for all Indians whereas Nehru strongly felt minorities should be given additional safeguards against Hindu majority. Furious with Nehru's attitude, Dr. Rajendra Prasad wrote a letter to him. In the letter, he described Nehru as unjust and undemocratic.

Dr. Prasad shared the letter with Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel before sending it to Nehru. Patel read the letter and suggested that he not act angrily, to withhold the letter and to raise his disagreement in the Party's forum. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was unhappy with this advice of Patel, but followed it and kept back the letter. Patel was a shrewd politician and had his own future plans for Prasad. The debate on the Code Bill spread all over the country and conservative religious leaders opposed it vigorously. Nehru noticed the controversy surrounding the Bill and at the time when the Constitution was to be filled with the Hindu Code Bill, he took a tough stand.

It was already September 1949; the Constitution was about to be completed and the Presidential election was to be held soon after. Patel and the Congress party wanted Rajendra Prasad to be the President. Nehru, at that time, favoured the then Governor General Rajagopalachari to be the first President of the nation. Chakravarthi Rajagopalachari had not participated in the Quit India Movement and hence was not popular with the Congress party cadre. Patel and Prasad had a strong hold on the organisation, even more than Nehru. Congress party chose Rajendra Prasad as the President of India. The Constituent Assembly elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India unanimously.

At the most solemn ceremony, held in the brilliantly lit and high domed Durbar Hall of the then Vice Regal Palace (present day Rashtrapati Bhavan), India was declared a Sovereign Democratic Republic exactly at eighteen minutes past ten on the morning of Thursday, January 26, 1950. The retiring Governor-General, C. Rajagopalachari, read out the proclamation of the Republic of "India, that is, Bharat." On January 26, 1950, at 10.24 am, Rajendra Prasad created history by becoming the first President of the new Republic. Justice Harilal Jekisundas Kania, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India, administered the oath of office. The birth of the Indian Republic and the installation of its first President were announced by a salute of 31 guns shortly after 10.30 am. Prasad's sister, Bhagwati Devi, had died the previous day, 25th January, and he attended her cremation after the founding of the Republic and swearing-in ceremony.

The famous **Somnath temple**, which was in Junagadh State before independence, was known for its splendour and wealth in ancient times. It was first plundered and destroyed by Ghazni Muhammad in 1025, and subsequently rebuilt many times and repeatedly looted by foreign invaders. After India's Independence and the accession of Junagarh State into Indian Union, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the then Union Home Minister, pledged that Somnath should be reconstructed and restored to its original glory.

When Patel broached this subject with Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhiji endorsed the plan but said that the contribution for the reconstruction of the temple should come from the public and not the Government. With the demise of Patel, the task of the restoration of the temple was ably led by K.M. Munshi, a famous lawyer, author, founder of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB) and a Cabinet Minister in the Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's Government.

Nehru never liked the idea of restoring this ancient monument and more than once criticised Munshi for its reconstruction. At the end of a Cabinet meeting, Nehru called Munshi and said: I don't like your trying to restore Somnath. **It is Hindu revivalism.** Munshi did not utter a word but later wrote to Nehru a long letter saying, *"…. It is my faith in the past which has given me the strength to work in the present and to look forward to our future. I cannot value freedom if it deprives us of the Bhagavad Gita or uproots our millions from the faith with which they look upon our temples and thereby destroys the texture of our lives…. this shrine once restored to a place of importance in our life will give to our people a purer conception of religion and a more vivid consciousness of our strength."*

When the then President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, was invited to inaugurate the temple, Nehru advised the President "against participating in a significant function which unfortunately has a number of implications." Dr. Rajendra Prasad ignored Nehru's advice and added, ***"I would do the same with a mosque or a church if I were invited."***

So, on 11th May 1951, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, while presiding over the opening ceremony of the temple, gave a stirring speech. He said that *"the physical symbols of our civilisation maybe destroyed, but no arms, army or king could destroy the bond that the people had with their culture and faith. Till that bond remained, the civilisation would survive." He added that it was the creative urge for civilisational renewal, nurtured in the hearts of the people through centuries that had once again led to the "praan-pratishta" of the Somnath deity. Somnath was the symbol of economic and spiritual prosperity of ancient India, he said. The re-building of Somnath will not be complete till India attains the prosperity of the yesteryear."* **In anger at the President's defiance of his wishes, Nehru instructed the Information Ministry not to officially publish the speech. But the newspapers all over the country widely reported the speech.**

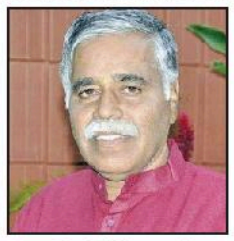
[Continued on Page-9]

***The first Cabinet of the Indian Republic with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** (sitting at left end) **and Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherji** (right end).*

CM reshuffles District In-Charge Ministers

V. Somanna gets Chamarajanagar; B.C. Nagesh Kodagu; S.T. Somashekar continues as Mysuru District In-Charge

V. Somanna



B.C. Nagesh

S.T. Somashekar

Bengaluru, Jan.25- In a major reshuffle of District In-Charge Ministers, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday reshuffled the In-Charge position of most of the District Ministers. According to the revised list of District Ministers, Basavaraj Bommai will retain In-Charge of Bengaluru Urban District while senior Ministers R. Ashoka and J.C. Madhuswamy have been stripped of In-Charge. Housing Minister V. Somanna has now been appointed as Chamarajanagar District In-Charge Minister, which hitherto was held by Mysuru District Minister S.T. Somashekar as additional charge.

In other major changes, K.C. Narayanagowda, who was hitherto Mandya District Minister has been stripped of Mandya and has now been given In-Charge of Shivamogga District.

Senior Minister K.S. Eshwarappa, who was hitherto Shivamogga District Minister, has now been shunted out of Shivamogga and made Chikkamagalur District Minister. Only three Ministers — B.C.Patil, Shankar Patil Munenakoppa and K.Gopalaiah — have got In-Charge of two districts each. The complete list of Ministers with District In-Charge is as follows:

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai	Bengaluru Urban
Govind Karjol	Belagavi
K.S. Eshwarappa	Chikkamagalur
B. Sriramulu	Ballari
V. Somanna	Chamarajanagar
Umesh Katti	Vijayapura
S. Angara	Udupi
Araga Jnanendra	Tumakuru
Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan	Ramanagara
C.C. Patil	Bagalkot
Anand Singh	Koppal
Kota Srinivas Poojary	Uttara Kannada
Prabhu Chavan	Yadgir
Murugesh Nirani	Kalaburagi
Shivaram Hebbar	Haveri
S.T. Somashekar	Mysuru
B.C. Patil	Chitradurga & Gadag
Byrathi Basavaraj	Davanagere
Dr. K. Sudhakar	Bengaluru Rural
K. Gopalaiah	Hassan and Mandya
Shashikala Jolle	Vijayanagar
S. Nagaraj (MTB Nagaraj)	Chikkaballapur
K.C. Narayanagowda	Shivamogga
B.C. Nagesh	Kodagu
V. Sunil Kumar	Dakshina Kannada
Halappa Achar	Dharwad
Shankar Patil Munenakoppa	Raichur and Bidar
Munirathna	Kolar

Horticulture Department's phone-in programme gets just 7 queries

Mysuru, Jan. 25 (RKB & DM)- The phone-in programme organised by the Horticulture Department at the Department's Office in Curzon Park here yesterday, saw seven farmers from across the district calling up the authorities.

The queries were on issues such as drip and sprinkler irrigation, the department's schemes for SC and ST farmers, inter cultivation of coffee and cocoa in K.R. Nagar taluk etc.

However, the phone-in programme saw many hiccups due to technical faults in phone lines.

Deputy Director of Horticulture Rudresh told *Star of Mysore* that as many farmers could not call the Department due to telephone line problems, the phone-in programme will he held again next Monday.

The First President of India

Swearing-in ceremony of Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India.

[Continued from Page-8]

Sardar Patel, the Deputy Prime Minister who unified the 564 States into the Indian nation, was a dear friend of the President. Patel died at Bombay on 15th December 1950. Nehru advised the President against attending the funeral of Sardar Patel citing protocols. Dr. Prasad rejected this advice of the Prime Minister and went to participate in the funeral services of his close associate and the great freedom fighter.

The first general elections held in 1952 was the first major milestone for the infant Republic. While the world watched skeptically, Indian elections with the universal franchise and the biggest electorate in the world went on peacefully, and a democratically elected Government was installed in New Delhi. Congress got a spectacular majority under Nehru's leadership.

With the death of Patel, Nehru had emerged as the undisputed supreme leader of India. After the general election, the electoral college was to elect a new President. Against the wishes of Nehru, the Congress party nominated Dr. Rajendra Prasad once again for the President. Nehru in full control of the Congress party after the 1952 elections to Parliament, easily got the Hindu Code Bills passed and President Prasad, as a true democrat, signed those Bills into law without any protest.

While he accepted the party's will in 1952, in the elections of 1957, Nehru had the opportunity to elect the President of his own choice. So, this time, his favourite was the first Vice-President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Dr. Radhakrishnan was a philosopher, sanskrit scholar, prolific writer, Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics at the University of Oxford, and a former ambassador to the Soviet Union. To the utter disappointment of Nehru, the choice of the Congress party once again was Dr. Rajendra Prasad who was easily elected. Dr. Radhakrishnan was very upset and desired to resign. To placate him, Nehru changed the order of precedence. Previously the order was President, Prime Minister and the Vice-President. He made the Vice-President second, demoting himself to the third position. **Dr. Prasad is the only President in Indian history to have occupied Rashtrapati Bhavan for twelve long years.**

The nation's greatest honour ***'Bharat Ratna'*** is always awarded after recommendation from the Prime Minister and the Union Cabinet. On July 13, 1955, Nehru had returned from a successful tour of European countries and the Soviet Union, a tour aimed at the promotion of peace as the Cold War was rapidly escalating. Nehru's efforts to establish India as a major player in world affairs found popular support outside India. On Nehru's return to Delhi, the then President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, went to the airport to receive him, disregarding protocol. He also hosted a special State banquet on July 15, 1955, at Rashtrapati Bhavan in honour of Nehru. It was at this event that Dr. Prasad announced his intention of conferring the ***'Bharat Ratna'*** upon Jawaharlal Nehru. Dr. Prasad described Nehru as the 'great architect of peace in our time'. The President himself confessed that he had acted unconstitutionally as he had decided to confer the honour "without any recommendation or advice from my Prime Minister or the Cabinet."

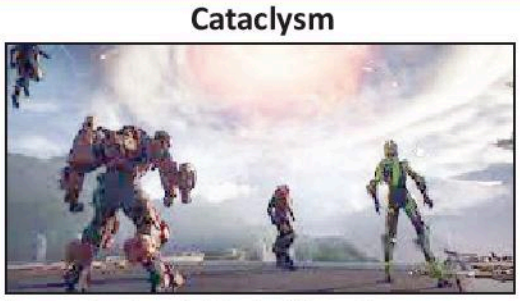
Nehru always viewed the first President as a revivalist who did not represent the new India. Though there were many invitations from foreign nations, the Prime Minister rarely allowed him to go for official visits as head of State. Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Nehru, in spite of their strong differences, admired and respected each other. President Dr. Prasad was a true Gandhian and believed in simple living. The official salary of the President was ten thousand rupees per month. But he drew only five thousand. After he demitted office in 1962, he did not stay in Delhi, but went to live in Sadaqat Ashram in Patna. He donated all the jewels of his wife to the National Defence Fund at the time of war with China. India's highest honour 'Bharat Ratna' was conferred on him in 1962. He died on 28th February 1963. Nehru did not attend the funeral and went away on a tour of Rajasthan. He also dissuaded President Dr. Radhakrishnan from attending, but the President did not heed his advice and travelled to Patna for the last rites of the deceased former President.

The first President's contribution to the freedom movement and the stabilisation of Indian Democracy were immense. He steered the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly sagaciously and helped the unanimous adoption of the Indian Constitution. Dr. Prasad established good democratic traditions during the twelve long years he occupied the Rashtrapati Bhavan. He was a simple, elegant, unostentatious person and conducted himself with humility and dignity. Dr. Babu Rajendra Prasad was a Great President.

NOTE: *The shadow boxing among political giants of those days Nehru, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Dr. Radhakrishnan was understandable. A Uniform Civil Code, as contemplated in the Constitution, may help set right the defects or deficiencies Nehru found in the customs and practices of majority Hindus and also in other minority communities. It is gross discrimination and injustice not to have a statue or a memorial to such great leaders like Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Vallabhbhai Patel, Subash Chandra Bose and P.V. Narasimha Rao in Delhi, who had by their political genius and leadership qualities changed the course of country's destiny for the better — reclaiming its past religious glory, achieving unity of a fragmented nation and a critical course-correction in its economic policy.*—**Ed**

WORD OF THE DAY

Cataclysm



Pronunciation: cat·a·clysm | \ ˈka-tə-ˌkli-zəm \.
Meaning: Flood, Deluge, Catastrophe; a momentous and violent event marked by overwhelming upheaval and demolition broadly.
Origin: French cataclysme, from Latin cataclysmos, from Greek kataklysmos, from kataklyzein to inundate, from kata- + klyzein to wash — more at CLYSTER. Is there a word cataclysmic? Something that's cataclysmic is violently destructive. The word often refers to natural disasters, like a cataclysmic earthquake, but cataclysmic can describe other events as well as long as they're bad enough, like the cataclysmic failure you had making meatloaf.
Example: With Obamacare slowly wending its way through Congress that fall, comparisons to the Clinton cataclysm in 1994 were inevitable. — Walter Shapiro.

THE ODD WORD

Cadge

To beg or sponge from another.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Against the clock

Meaning: You use the phrase 'Against the Clock' to indicate that you are in a race with time.
Origin: The origin of the expression 'against the clock' is American, and it is believed to come from the mid-20th century, when timed sports gained popularity.
Example: "Hurry up! We're working against the clock here!"

QUOTE BOX

Don't watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going. **—Sam Levenson**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

S	S	S	S
B	B	B	B
A	A	A	A
R	R	R	R
G	G	G	G

Answer: Up for grabs.

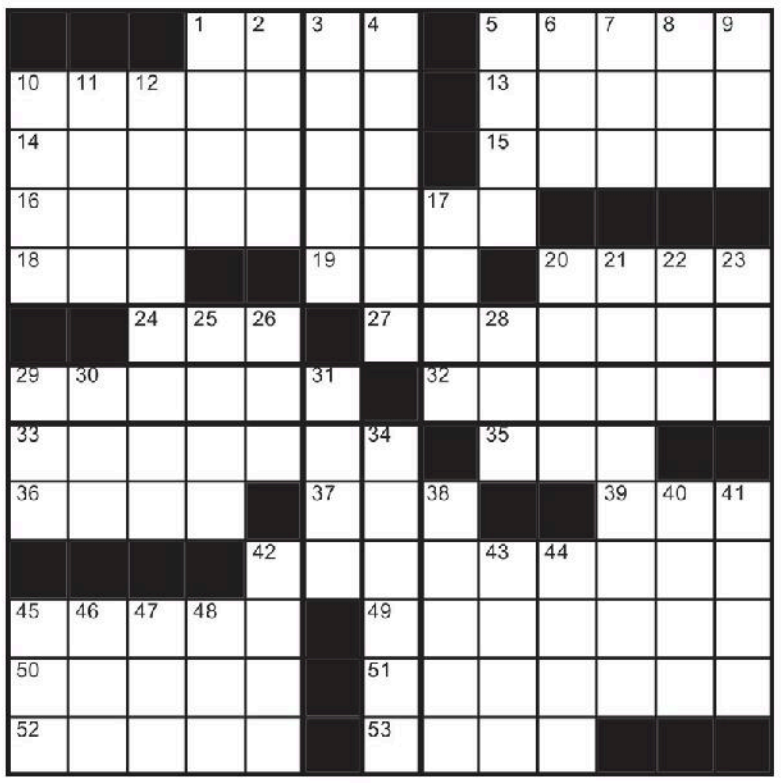
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Flat plate
5 Sultan's wives
10 North African country
13 Rolling in the Deep singer
14 Learned
15 A, E, I, O or U?
16 Small coffee cup
18 Soc. of Auto. Engrs.
19 Indian prime minister 1991-6
20 Turkish title
24 Treacherous rodent
27 Malice
29 Physical & mental well-being
32 Postpone or discouraged (3,3)
33 Eight-sided figure
35 Small one
36 Obligatory payments
37 Spider house
39 Debutante, in short
42 A measure of volume, equal to 10 cubic meters
45 Marshy tributary
49 Bricklayer's tools
50 Small islands, poetically speaking
51 Gives in, complies or relents
52 One of many in a transport company's fleet?
53 Long handled tool used to gather leaves, grass, etc.

DOWN
1 Khaled's famous song or Indian relative?
2 A small question expressing doubt, wonder or disbelief? (2,2)
3 Stringed instrument of great popularity in our country
4 Title of ancient Roman emperors
5 Possess
6 Bustle or to-do
7 VCR button
8 Estimated life expectancy
9 Gibson or Brooks of Hollywood
10 Spreads out for drying
11 Popular fertilizer
12 Able to count
17 Washing substance
20 Legal doings
21 An act of kindness - not a sin (4,4)
22 Hindu Undivided family
23 Spot's sound
25 Cry of grief
26 Time To Go
28 Off one's ___ : foolish, silly, or crazy?
29 Coal carrier
30 Old French coin
31 Inventor Elias
34 Drink of the gods
38 Real Madrid's arch rivals in short
40 Mystery writer___ Stanley Gardener
41 Good Queen __ : Elizabeth I?
42 Later part of the day
43 A short stocking
44 Affectedly dainty
45 Stake or risk
46 Scottish port - "ray" anagram?
47 Addressee
48 Over the counter, acronym

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

		T	E	C			S	H	Y				
	N	A	S	A	L		P	E	S	T	S		
K	E	R	A	L	A		I	N	E	R	T		
I	N	D	I	U	M		E	R	R	O	R	S	
N	E	Y		M	A	H	D	I		J	A	L	
			E	E	R	O			V	A	N	S	
	I	N	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	N	G		
S	N	I	P			R	O	A	M				
S	T	M		U	M	I	A	K		C	M	C	
C	A	B	A	L	A		R	I	G	O	U	R	
	C	L	U	N	G		S	N	O	O	T	Y	
	T	E	R	A	I		E	G	Y	P	T		
			A	R	C			S	A	S			



SUDOKU

	5		7		2	4		
	7					8		
9		3			5			
				2		5		
4			8		1			3
		1		3				
			3			6		4
		9					5	
		4	1		7		9	

Answer to previous puzzle

5	2	8	7	6	4	3	9	1
9	6	1	3	8	5	7	4	2
7	3	4	1	2	9	8	6	5
2	7	6	9	5	1	4	8	3
8	4	3	2	7	6	5	1	9
1	5	9	8	4	3	2	7	6
6	8	7	5	9	2	1	3	4
4	1	5	6	3	7	9	2	8
3	9	2	4	1	8	6	5	7

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

WUZCCZI LC GVZ KOR GVOG ZRIXPZGV GZKEGOGLSR:

NSP TVZR VZ LC GPLZI, VZ CVOUU

PZDZLBZ GVZ DPSTR SN ULNZ.

TODAY'S CLUE: V EQUALS H

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: There is only one you... Don't you dare change just because you're outnumbered.

Siri Kannada channel's entertainment package

Mysuru, Jan. 25- 'Siri Kannada' channel is telecasting four new tele serials with a variety of story line and giving a complete entertainment package to the audience.

From Monday to Friday, 'Amara Madhura Prema' with triangle love story is being telecast at 6.30 pm while the new episodes of 'Hasya Durbar,' a humour show, is telecast at 7 pm.

Tele serial 'W/o Krishnamurthy' at 8 pm and 'Sarkari Nyaya Bele Angadi, Pandavapura' at 8.30 pm has been successful in reaching wide viewers.

Also, another mythological serial 'Srimad Bhagavata Mahapurana' will be coming up from Jan. 31 at 9 pm.

Viewers will get to see a new version of the well-known programmes of the channel like 'Naarigondu Seere', 'Jeevanamruta' and 'Siri Suprabhata.'

Director S.N. Sethuram's 'Yugantara' and B.S. Lingadevaru's 'Brahmin's Cafe' serial and 'Comedy Ride' and various other programmes will be broadcast further, said Channel's Resident Director Sanjay Shindhe and Head Rajesh Rajaghatta.

Mysore Brothers perform at 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla

Mysore Brothers — Vid. Mysore Nagaraj and Vid. Dr. Mysore Manjunath — presenting a Violin Duet at 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, last evening as part of the 60th Heritage Music Festival organised by Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust. They are accompanied by Vid. Thiruvarur Bhaktavatsalam on mridanga and Vid. Amruth on kanjira. Today at 6.15 pm, flute recital by Vid. Shashank Subramayam, accompanied by Vid. B.U. Ganesh Prasad on violin, Vid. Ananth R. Krishna on mridanga and Vid. Guruprasanna on kanjira.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Viswasam (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Badava Rascal (K)- 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — Ph: 2497199
  Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (H) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Hridayam (Ma)	(S-1)	9.55 am, 6.55 pm
	(S-4)	3.40 pm
Spiderman: No Way Home (3D-E)	(S-1)	1.10 pm, 4.00 pm
Badava Rascal (K)	(S-2)	10.45 am, 1.25 pm, 4.10 pm
	(S-3)	7.00 pm
83 (H)	(S-2)	6.55 pm
Raajakumara (K)	(S-3)	10.05 am, 1.05 pm, 4.05 pm
	(S-4)	6.55 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE — Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Hridayam (Ma)	(S-1)	5.50 pm
	(S-2)	1.15 pm, 4.55 pm
	(S-4)	10.30 am
Badava Rascal (K)	(S-2)	10.15 am
	(S-3)	2.35 pm
83 (H)	(S-3)	11.00 am, 5.40 pm
Spiderman: No Way Home (3D-E)	(S-1)	11.00 am, 2.25 pm
Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (Te)	(S-4)	2.10 pm
Bangarraju (Te)	(S-4)	6.00 pm

PVR CINEMAS

Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Spider-Man: No Way Home (E-3D)	:	11.40 am
Badava Rascal (K)	:	12.15 pm, 6.40 pm
Bangarraju (Te)	:	2.50 pm
Hridayam (Ma)	:	3.05 pm
83 (H)	:	6.10 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Badava Rascal (K)	:	1 pm, 3.50 pm, 6.40 pm
Bangarraju (Te)	:	11 am
Hridayam (Ma)	:	5.50 pm
Pushpa: The Rise - Part 1(K)	:	2.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here.

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 25)

- **Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust:** 60th Heritage Music Festival, flute recital by Vid. Shashank Subramayam, accompanied by Vid. B.U. Ganesh Prasad on violin; Vid. Ananth R. Krishna on mridanga and Vid. Guruprasanna on kanjira, 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, **6.15 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 26)

- **Directorate of Student Welfare (DSW), University of Mysore, Manasagangothri:** 73rd Republic Day celebrations, Vice-Chancellor Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar hoists the National Flag, Crawford Hall, **7.30 am.** [Ph: 0821-2419318/ 386/ 429]
- **District Administration, Mysuru:** 73rd Republic Day celebrations, Co-operation Minister S.T. Somashekar hoists the Tricolour, Narasimharaja MLA Tanveer Sait presides, Mayor Sunanda Palanethra, MPs Pratap Simha, Sreenivasa Prasad and Sumalathe Ambarish chief guests, Torch Light Parade Grounds, Bannimantap, **9 am.**
- **Students' Union, Chinmaya Vidyalaya:** 73rd Republic Day celebrations, PMCC Ln. Nagaraj Bairy unfurls the Tricolour, Chinmaya Vidyalaya Governing Council Chairman H.N. Ramathirtha presides, Vidyalaya premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **9 am.**
- **Paramahamsa Yoga Mahavidyalaya:** Republic Day celebrations, Fine Arts College Professor Sangeetha Vidwan Dr. Mysore M. Manjunath inaugurates, Paramahamsa Yoga Mahavidyalaya Chairman Yogapraveena Shivaprakash presides, Mahavidyalaya premises, #1691, 7th and 8th Cross, E & F Block, Ramakrishnanagar, **5 pm.** [Mob: 90355-06790 or 90087-27172]
- **Aishwarya Kalanikethana, Chikkaballapur and Kannada & Culture Department, Bengaluru:** Rangotsava (Theatre Festival), Rangageethegalu by Prayoga Mantapa, a social and cultural organisation, Bengaluru; Staging of play 'Sri Krishna Sandhana' by Aishwarya Kalanikethana, Chikkaballapur (Playwright: Ashwath; Director: Rajesh Kashyap), RamaGovinda Rangamandira, Ramakrishnanagar, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust:** 60th Heritage Music Festival, vocal concert by Vid. Vignesh Ishwar, accompanied by Vid. Sai Rakshith on violin, Vid. Jayachandra Rao on mridanga and Vid. G.S. Ramanujam on ghata, 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, **6.15 pm.**

EVENTS ON THURSDAY (JAN. 27)

- **Aishwarya Kalanikethana, Chikkaballapur and Kannada & Culture Department, Bengaluru:** Rangotsava (Theatre Festival), staging of play 'Bellakki Hindu Bedaryavo' by Aishwarya Kalanikethana, Chikkaballapur (Playwright: Go.Ru. Channabasappa; Director: Venkatesh Joshi), RamaGovinda Rangamandira, Ramakrishnanagar, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust:** 60th Heritage Music Festival, vocal concert by Vid. Vijay Siva, accompanied by Vid. R.K. Shriramkumar on violin, Vid. Melakaveri Balaji on mridanga and Vid. Vyasa Vittala on kanjira, 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, **6.15 pm.**

PRO KABADDI

Today's Matches (JAN. 25)

Haryana Steelers Vs **Telugu Titans** — 7.30 pm

Tomorrow's Match (JAN. 26)

U Mumba Vs **Bengaluru Bulls** — 7.30 pm

Thursday's Match (JAN. 27)

UP Yoddha Vs **Puneri Paltan** — 7.30 pm

Yesterday's Results

Bengal Warriors	41
Beat	
Pink Panthers	22
Puneri Paltan	42
Beat	
Dabang Delhi	25

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Lunch: 12.30pm at our Res.2352, 5th Main, Rama Mandir Road, Vinayakanagar (Paduvarahalli)

Sri. Venkatagiri
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